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FLOOR DEBATE

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highway department to determine when this discretion is done? Is that...and...

SENATOR BROMM: That...that's correct, Senator Hartnett. If a county and the state decided that it would be most efficient for a county to handle the bidding on a particular segment of a project then they could do that if the...if they agreed to do so. It would be totally voluntary or discretionary on both of their parts.

SENATOR HARTNETT: So it would be the...it would be the state Department of Roads' decision whether to allow this to happen, to start the pro...

SENATOR BROMM: Whether to...whether to allow it, correct, but they couldn't require the county to do it. It would be a...a...it would have to be a mutual agreement to do it.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I'd like to ask Senator Bromm a question or two for clarification.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator, would you respond?

SENATOR BROMM: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bromm, on page 3, the new language tracks word for word the language that we find on page 2, which is existing law, namely about construction, reconstruction, improvement, maintenance and so forth. After all of this has been stated, we have, beginning in line 8, these words: "The department may reject any or all bids and cause the work to be done as may be directed by the department." There is no language in the new material about the right of anybody to reject the bids that are let pursuant to this new language. Was that intentionally done?